

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 02072 031402Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ST-01 /017 W
-----031407Z 109722 /53

R 031218Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3887

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 2072

FOR A/SY-DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DYKEOS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJECT: BEIRUT COM VEHICLES

REF: (A) BEIRUT 1975, (B) BEIRUT 1881, (C) STATE 087446,
(D) BEIRUT 1748, (E) BEIRUT 1688, (F) STATE 086665,
(G) BEIRUT 1625

1. DURING THE PAST MONTH WE HAVE EXPERIENCED A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFICULTY IN THE OPERATION OF OUR TWO FULLY ARMORED COM VEHICLES. CHRYSLER HAS BEEN DEADLINED FOR OVER A MONTH AND LTD FOR THREE FULL WEEKS, BOTH WITH FAULTY BRAKE SYSTEMS. AS A RESULT WE WERE WITHOUT A FULLY-ARMORED CAR FOR THREE WEEKS. AT PRESENT, LTD IS BACK ON THE ROAD, BUT WE ARE STILL AWAITING PARTS FOR CHRYSLER.

2. THE PROBLEM WAS NOT ONE OF REPAIR, AS WE WERE ABLE TO CALL FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE ATHENS SEABEES WHO RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY, BUT LACK OF PARTS. FIRST, THE WRONG PART WAS SHIPPED FOR OUR CHRYSLER, AND THEN A DEFECTIVE PART WAS SENT AS A REPLACEMENT. WE HAVE TO DO BETTER IF ACCEPTABLE SECURITY IS TO BE MAINTAINED FOR THE CHIEF OF MISSION. LACK OF SUITABLE VEHICLE VERY UNSETTLING TO ME.

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 02072 031402Z

3. A POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO PREVENT FUTURE DELAYS COULD BE TO STOCKPILE PARTS AT POST, OR AT LEAST AT POSTS WHERE SEABEE MECHANICS ARE LOCATED SO THAT IF WE CALL FOR ASSISTANCE, THE MECHANICS CAN BRING THE CORRECT PART WITH THEM. WE UNDERSTAND THAT DEPARTMENT HAS DECIDED AGAINST SUCH STOCKPILING, FOR REASONS WHICH ARE NOT CLEAR TO US. I REQUEST THAT YOU TAKE A PERSONAL LOOK AT PROBLEM TO SEE

IF SOMETHING CANNOT BE DONE TO SOLVE IT.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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